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SOURCE Rebotnichesko Delo, No 43, 1950.MINISTERS ISSUE DECREETO ENCOURAGE INDUSTRIAL CROP PRODUCTION

On 9 February, the Council of Ministers issued a decree designed to encourage the production of cotton, flax, hemp, soybeans, castor beans, lalle-mantia, rape, poppies, roses, mint, lavender, sugar beets, vegetables, straw-berries, raspberries, grapes, rice, and silk. The decree includes the following provisions:

Cotton

Cotton growers shall deliver their entire cotton crop to the state, i.e., to the "Tekstilni Vlakna" (Textile Fiber) State Enterprise, at the standardized prices. Of the cotton delivered, 25 percent shall be returned to the grower, at the standardized price, in the form of cotton cloth, cotton thread, or raw cotton, as the grower prefers. Not more than 20 percent of this total may consist of cotton thread. "Tekstilni Vlakna" shall sign contracts with the cotton growers for planting the assigned area and delivering the entire crop, as provided by the plan. The cotton growers shall employ the scientific farming procedures recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture. The "Zemsnab" (Land Supply) State Enterprise, an agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, shall sign contracts with cotton growers for the production of choice cottonseed.

The 1949 scale of prices shall be used for purchasing the cotton fiber, as follows: first quality, 275 leva per kilogram; second quality, 261 leva per kilogram; third quality, 248 leva; and fourth quality, 235 leva. Seed shall be purchased separately at 12 leva per kilogram.

Cotton growers, private or cooperative, who have signed contracts for planting cotton, shall be permitted to buy back the following at standardized prices: 2 liters of oil per 100 kilograms of raw cotton delivered, and one kilogram of feed grain and one-half kilogram of concentrated fodder per kilogram of fodder delivered, except that 25 percent of the cotton returned to the producer may not be counted. If a cotton grower produces his own feed grain and fodder, he may exchange every 100 kilograms of grain due him for 8 meters of cotton cloth. For each 100 kilograms of raw cotton delivered, he may buy one pair of rubber sandals, but not more than one pair for each member of the family.

- 1 -

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During 1950, the Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Ministry of Electrification and Reclamation, shall arrange for the irrigation of 50,000 decares of cotton fields in suitable areas. In accordance with the sowing plan for 1950, 50,000 decares of the area planted in cotton are to be in irrigated districts.

By 15 April 1950, "Zems nab" shall arrange for treating 3,500 tons of cottonseed with sulfuric acid in preparation for planting.

The Ministry of Agriculture shall distribute 4,800 tons of ammonium nitrate and 12,500 tons of superphosphate to cotton growers in the chief cotton-growing areas at half price, the difference to be paid by the national budget.

The Bulgarian National Bank shall lend up to 3,000 leva per decare planted, for production purposes, to growers who have signed contracts to plant cotton. These loans shall be repaid when the produce is delivered and paid for.

Flax and Hemp

Producers of flax and hemp shall sign contracts with the "Rilski Len" State Enterprise of the Ministry of Industry and shall employ recommended scientific farming practices, as described above.

Growers of flax and hemp who have signed contracts for the production of fiber shall receive 10 kilograms of hemp or 14 kilograms of flax seed per decare from "Rilski Len," without charge.

"Zems nab" shall give 8 kilograms of hemp seed or 10 kilograms of flax seed per decare, on a cooperative basis, to growers who have signed contracts to produce choice hemp or flax seed. The Central Cooperative Association shall give 10 kilograms of seed per hectare to producers of oleaginous flax, on a cooperative basis. Producers who receive seed on a cooperative basis shall return the same amount after the harvest plus an additional 3 percent.

Producers of hemp and flax, whether private or cooperative growers, who have signed contracts to plant hemp and flax and who have delivered these products to the state, may obtain the following goods at standardized prices: one meter of cotton cloth or one sack, as desired, and one-half kilogram of rope for each 100 kilograms of fiber hemp stems or 15 kilograms of hemp fiber and combings or 15 kilograms of hemp seed delivered; one meter of cotton cloth for each 70 kilograms of flax stems or 15 kilograms of flax fiber or 15 kilograms of fiber flax seed delivered; 3 meters of cotton cloth for every 100 kilograms of oleaginous flax seed delivered. The Ministry of Internal Trade, through the Main Administration for the Food Supply, shall grant growers of hemp and flax, whether private or cooperative, in areas that produce little grain, the following bread and feed grains at standardized prices: Hemp growers in the Pazardzhik, Sredets, Nesebur, and Dulgopol districts may buy 14 kilograms of wheat or rye or 20 kilograms of corn or barley for each 100 kilograms of hemp stems or 15 kilograms of hemp fiber and combings or 30 kilograms of hemp seed delivered. Flax growers in the Samokov, Panagyurishte, Velingrad (Chepinsko Basin), Razlog, Devin, Peshtera, Pazardzhik, Ikhtiman, and Pirdop districts may buy 21 kilograms of wheat or rye or 30 kilograms of corn or barley for each 100 kilograms of stems or 21 kilograms of flax fiber and combings or 30 kilograms of fiber flax seed delivered, provided that the total amount of grain does not exceed 280 kilograms for each member of the household. Growers of hemp and flax in those districts who have their own feed grain may substitute one meter of cotton cloth, at standardized prices, for the grain to which they are entitled by delivering the amounts of flax or hemp specified above. In other parts of the country where growers of flax and hemp do not receive feed grain, they may purchase one meter of cotton cloth in exchange for the amounts of flax and hemp specified, in addition to the amounts of cloth to which they are entitled under the terms of an earlier paragraph.

- 2 -

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50X1-HUM

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Soybeans, Castor Beans, and Lallemantia

The purchase price for these commodities shall be raised from 45 to 50 leva per kilogram.

For each 100 kilograms of soybeans, castor beans, or lallemantia delivered to the state, producers, whether private or cooperative, may buy 2 meters of cotton cloth at the standardized prices.

Rape and Poppies

For each 100 kilograms of rape delivered by 1 August, producers, whether private or cooperative, shall receive 7 liters of vegetable shortening at standardized prices, and for every 100 kilograms of rape delivered after that date, 5 liters of shortening. For each kilogram of raw opium, poppy producers, private and cooperative, in certain districts where little grain is produced, may purchase at standardized prices 70 kilograms of corn and 3 meters of cotton cloth. The total amount of corn shall not exceed 280 kilograms for each member of the household. Producers in grain-growing districts shall receive only 6 meters of cloth per kilogram of raw opium delivered. For each 100 kilograms of black poppy seed delivered, producers may purchase 20 kilograms of vegetable shortening at standardized prices.

Rape and poppy seed shall be purchased at the 1949 prices, i.e., 33 leva per kilogram for rape and 85 leva for poppy seed. Raw opium also shall be purchased at the 1949 price of 600 leva per kilogram.

Sugar Beets

The purchase price per ton shall be 3,500 leva, the same as in 1949.

Red Pepper

The purchase price of raw red pepper shall be 22 leva per kilogram, the same as in 1949.

Berries

The Ministry of Agriculture shall see that 26,500 decares of new strawberry beds and 1,100 decares of new raspberry beds are planted in 1950. Producers of new plants shall be required to deliver at least 6,000 strawberry or 800 raspberry plants per decare.

Purchase prices for raspberries, strawberries, and berry plants shall be the same as in 1949, i.e., 60 leva per kilogram of strawberries, 80 leva per kilogram of raspberries, 2 leva per strawberry plant, and 5 leva per raspberry plant. Unmulched strawberries shall sell for 20 leva per kilogram less. Strawberries of the Sharplez variety shall sell for 75 leva per kilogram.

Rice

The purchase price of rice shall remain 50 leva per kilogram.

Silk

In 1950, all owners of mulberry trees are required to use all their mulberry leaves for raising silkworms. If they do not raise silkworms, they must sell the leaves to silk raisers at 5 leva per kilogram.

For each kilogram of yellow or 3 kilograms of white cocoons delivered to the state for silk or breeding purposes, a producer may purchase, at standardized prices, one meter of cotton cloth or 150 grams of cotton thread.

- 3 -

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For this purpose, the Ministry of Internal Trade shall release 50,000 meters of cotton cloth, 23,000 meters of silk fabric, and 40,000 kilograms of cotton thread to the "Tekstilni Vlakna" State Enterprise.

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- 4 -

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